



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kathleen A. Donovan, et al. Art Unit : 1648
Serial No. : 09/821,719 Examiner : M. Hill
Filed : March 29, 2001
Title : IL-1B: A NEW TARGET FOR MYELOMA THERAPY

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

In response to the office action mailed June 18, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 3, 7, 9-14, and 16-27.

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 15, and 28 as follows: 129-3

-- 1. **(Amended)** A method of quantitating bioactive IL-1 β , said method comprising:

- Cr1
- a) determining the amount of IL-6 produced by stromal cells cultured with a bone marrow preparation from an individual diagnosed with a multiple myeloma-related plasmaproliferative disorder; and
 - b) quantitating the amount of bioactive IL-1 β in said bone marrow preparation based on the amount of IL-6 produced by said stromal cells.

2. **(Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein said bone marrow preparation is from an individual diagnosed with smoldering multiple myeloma.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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